GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4026
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
FOODGRAINS OF APL TO BPL FAMILIES
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various State Governments have requested the Union Government for permissionto convert wheat and rice lying unsold in their godowns meant for above povertyline card holders, into that meant for below poverty line card holders;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the State Governments who have requested for the same; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a),(b)&(c): State Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh requested the Central Government in 2000-2001 for granting permission to divert the APL stock of foodgrains lying with them due to low offtake for distribution to the BPL consumers.

(d): The Government took the following decisions in this regard:

As soon as the State Governments and/or their nominees make payment for the foodgrainsallotted to them by the FCI and they lift the stocks from the FCI godowns/depots, the transaction is complete.Hence such requests for diversion of stocks of foodgrains already purchased by them at APL rates for distribution to BPL consumers and/or under various Welfare Schemes was not accepted.These State Governments were advised to dispose of their surplus stocks held by them through auction or any other means, as deemed fit. In respect of States/UTs which have system of decentralized procurement, the distinction between APL and BPL so far as stocks procured are concerned would not exist. It would be treated as total pool of procurement available with the States.